Numb. 202

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——— *Eſt hic,*
Eſt ulubris Animus ſi te non deficit æquus. Hor.

From *Saturday July* 22. to *Tueſday July* 25. 1710.

From my own Apartment, July 24.

THIS Afternoon I went to viſit a Gentleman of my Acquaintance at *Mile-End*, and paſſing through *Stepney* Churchyard, I could not forbear entertaining my ſelf with the Inſcriptions on the Tombs and Graves. Among others, I obſerved one with this notable Memorial;

Here lies the Body of T. B.

This fantaſtical Deſire of being remember'd only by the Two firſt Letters of a Name, led me into the Contemplation of the Vanity and imperfect Attainments of Ambition in general. When I run back in my Imagination all the Men whom I have ever known and converſed with in my whole Life, there are but very few who have not uſed their Faculties in the Purſuit of what it is impoſſible to acquire, or left the Poſſeſſion of what they might have been (at their ſetting out) Maſters, to ſearch for it where it was out of their Reach. In this Thought it was not poſſible to forget the Inſtance of *Pyrrhus*, who propoſing to himſelf in Diſcourſe with a Philoſopher, one, and another, and another Conqueſt, was asked, What he would do after all that? Then, ſays the King, we will make merry. He was well anſwered, What hinders your doing that in the Condition you are already? The reſtleſs Deſire of exerting themſelves above the common Level of Mankind, is not to be reſiſted in ſome Tempers; and Minds of this Make may be obſerved in every Condition of Life. Where ſuch Men do not make to themſelves or meet with Employment, the Soil of their Conſtitution runs into Tares and Weeds. An old Friend of mine, who loſt a Major's Poſt Forty Years ago, and quitted, has ever ſince ſtudied Maps, Encampments, Retreats and Counter-marches, with no other Deſign but to feed his Spleen and Ill-Humour, and furniſh himſelf with Matter for arguing againſt all the ſucceſsful Actions of others. He that at his firſt ſetting out in the World was the gayeſt Man in our Regiment, ventured his Life with Alacrity, and enjoyed it with Satisfaction, encouraged Men below him, and was courted by Men above him, has been ever ſince the moſt froward Creature breathing. His warm Complexion ſpends its ſelf now only in a general Spirit of Contradiction, for which he watches all Occaſions, and is in his Converſation ſtill upon Centry, treats all Men like Enemies, with every other Impertinence of a ſpeculative Warrior.

He that obſerves in himſelf this natural Inquietude, ſhould take all imaginable Care to put his Mind in ſome Method of Gratification, or he will ſoon find himſelf grow into the Condition of this diſappointed Major. Inſtead of courting proper Occaſions to riſe above others, he will be ever ſtudious at pulling others down to him, it being the common Refuge of diſappointed Ambition to eaſe themſelves by Detraction. It would be no great Argument againſt Ambition, that there are ſuch mortal Things in the Diſappointment of it; but it certainly is a forcible Exception that there can be no ſolid Happineſs in the Succeſs of it. If we value popular Praiſe, it is in the Power of the meaneſt of the People to diſturb us by Calumny: If the Fame of being happy, we cannot look into a Village but we ſee Crowds in actual Poſſeſſion of what we ſeek only the Appearance. To this may be added, that there is I know not what Malignity in the Minds of ordinary Men to oppoſe you in what they ſee you fond of; and it is a certain Exception againſt a Man's receiving Applauſe, that he viſibly courts it. However, this is not only the Paſſion of great and undertaking Spirits, but you ſee it in the Lives of ſuch as one would believe were far enough removed from the Ways of Ambition. The Rural Squires of this Nation even eat and drink out of Vanity. A vain-glorious Fox-hunter ſhall entertain half a County for the Oſtentation of his Beef and Beer, without the leaſt Affection for any of the Crowd about him. He feeds them, becauſe he thinks it a Superiority over them that he does ſo; and they devour him, becauſe they know he treats them out of Inſolence. This indeed is Ambition in Groteſque, but may figure to us the Condition of politer Men, whoſe only Purſuit is Glory. When the Superior acts out of a Principle of Vanity, the Dependant will be ſure to allow it him, becauſe he knows it deſtructive of the very Applauſe which is courted by the Man who favours him, and conſequently makes him nearer himſelf.

But as every Man living has more or leſs of this Incentive, which makes Men impatient of an unactive

active Condition, and urges Men to attempt what may tend to their Reputation, it is absolutely necessary they shoud form to themselves an Ambition which is in every Man's Power to gratify. This Ambition would be independant, and would consist only in acting what to a Man's own Mind appears most great and laudable. It is a Pursuit in the Power of every Man, and is only a regular Prosecution of what he himself approves. It is what can be interrupted by no outward Accidents; for no Man can be robbed of his good Intention. One of our Society of the *Trumpet* therefore started last Night a Notion, which I thought had Reason in it. It is, methinks, said he, an unreasonable Thing that heroick Virtue should (as it seems to be at present) be confined to a certain Order of Men, and be attainable by none but those whom Fortune has elevated to the most conspicuous Stations. I would have every Thing to be esteemed as Heroick which is great and uncommon in the Circumstances in the Man who performs it. Thus there would be no Virtue in Human Life which every one of the Species would not have a Pretence to arrive at, and an Ardency to exert. Since Fortune is not in our Power, let us be as little as possible in her's. Why should it be necessary that a Man should be rich to be generous? If we measured by the Quality, and not the Quantity of Things, the Particulars which accompany an Action, is what should denominate it mean or great. The highest Station of Human Life is to be attained by each Man that pretends to it; for every Man can be as valiant, as generous, as wise, and as merciful, as the Faculties and Opportunities which he has from Heaven, and Fortune will permit. He that can say to himself, I do as much Good, and am as virtuous as my most earnest Endeavours will allow me, whatever is his Station in the World, is to himself possessed of the highest Honour. If Ambition is not thus turned, it is no other than a continual Succession of Anxiety and Vexation. But when it has this Cast, it invigorates the Mind; and the Consciousness of its own Worth is a Reward, which it is not in the Power of Envy, Reproach, or Detraction, to take from it. Thus the Seat of solid Honour is in a Man's own Bosom, and no one can want Support who is in Possession of an honest Conscience, but he who would suffer the Reproaches of it for other Greatness.

P. S. I was going on in my Philosophy, when Notice was brought me, That there was a great Crowd in my Antichamber who expected Audience. When they were admitted, I found they all met at my Lodging, each coming upon the same Errand, to know whether they were of the Fortunate in the Lottery which is now ready to be drawn. I was much at a Loss how to extricate my self from their Importunity; but observing the Assembly made up of both Sexes, I signified to them, That in this Case it would appear Fortune is not Blind, for all the Lots would fall upon the wisest and the fairest. This gave so general a Satisfaction, that the Room was soon emptied, and the Company retired with the best Air, and the most pleasing Grace, I had any where observed. Mr. *Elliot* of St. *James*'s Coffee-house now stood alone before me, and signified to me, he had now not only prepared his Books, but had received a very great Subscription already. His Design was to advertise his Subscribers at their respective Places of Abode within an Hour after their Number is drawn, whether it was a Blank or Benefit, if the Adventurer lives within the Bills of Mortality; if he dwells in the Country, by the next Post. I encouraged the Man in his Industry, and told him, The ready Path to good Fortune, was to believe there was no such Thing.

Advertisements.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuff, and Callicoes (being the Goods of Persons that failed) which were to be disposed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be sold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-against the Horse at Charing-Cross; with a fresh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being set on each Gown.

IT being industriously given out by some malicious Persons, That the House of the late Claudius Gillart at Hoxton, for the Accommodation of Lunaticks, is shut up; These are to certify, That the said House is still kept by William Prowting, Apothecary, who has all Conveniencies fitting for such Persons; as a large House, pleasant Gardens, &c. and gives Liberty to any Physician, Surgeon, or Apothecary, of administring Physick to those that are recommended by them.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Thursday the 27th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 6 in the Afternoon, (one Pipe in a Lot) 30 Pipes of new excellent Canary Wines, neat, just landed, not one Pipe sold out of the Parcel, now in a Vault under Mr. Rusbatch's at the Golden Spread-Eagle over against Rood-lane in Fenchurch-street; 18 Buts of new excellent Cadiz Tent Wine, neat, an entire Parcel, just landed; in a Warehouse in the dark Gateway of Galley-Key, between the Custom-House and Tower-Dock; 2 Pipes, and 4 Hhds. of new Oporto Stum, neat, an entire Parcel, just landed, in the Warehouse in the dark Gateway of Galley-Key above-mentioned. The aforesaid Wines and Stum are to be seen and tasted this Day and to Morrow, from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 7, and all Thursday till the Hour of Sale. Catalogues to be had at the Place of Sale, &c. Printed for Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane, between Tower-street and Crutched-Fryars.

*** N. B. The third and last Volume is now in the Press, in which the Primitive and Present State of the Church of England are described in Conformity to the Apostolick Age; the Logick of the Rights examin'd, and both the Historical and Argumentative Part of his Preface discuss'd at large: To which are added, Six other Tracts; 1. A Letter to the Author, against the first Defence of the Rights. 2. The Tryal of the Rights, in Answer to the second Defence. 3. Some Account of Hugo Grotius, and Mr. Hales. 4. The Country Parson's Answer to the Country Attorney. 5. A Vindication of Dr. M. T. 6. A Letter to Mons. Le Clerc in Latin. Printed for B. Lintott between the Two Temple-Gates in Fleet-street.

*** The History of Cold Bathing; both Ancient and Modern. In 2 Parts. The 1st written by Sir John Floyer, of Litchfield, Kt. The 2d treating of the Genuine Use of Hot and Cold Baths. Together with the wonderful Effects of the Bath Water, drank hot from the Pump, in decay'd Stomachs, and in most Diseases of the Bowels, Liver and Spleen, &c. Also proving, That the best Cures done by the Cold Baths, are lately observed to arise from the temperate Use of the Hot Baths first. By Dr. Edward Baynard, Fellow of the College of Physicians, London. The 3d Edition. Printed for W. Innys at the Prince's Arms in St. Paul's Church-yard.

MRs. Ogle's Sale of Goods, which should have been disposed of on the the 27th Instant, will not be drawn till Tuesday next the first of August, an Accident having happened which has prevented it for 5 Days longer; at which time she will not fail to draw it, at the Marker-House in Bloomsbury. It being not quite full, all Persons are desired to take Tickets at Mrs. Ogle's next Door to the Dog and Duck near Mountague-House; at Mr. Sedgwick's, Hair-Cutter in the Strand; and at the Widow Smith's, a Toyshop, over-against St. Clement's-Church.

THE Royal Beautifier, or the greatest Cosmetick in the World, being the most incomparable Thing in Nature for preserving and restoring a good Complection, and even to a Miracle fortifies the Skin against Wind and Sun, and makes such as are pale and wan look fresh and lively, and have a charming Countenance. It certainly takes away Freckles, Spots, Pimples, Scurf, Morphew, and Sun-burnings, and miraculously makes the Complection plump, fresh, smooth, and delicately fair, even to Admiration; it having met with great Applause amongst Persons of Quality and others, so that Persons daily resort from all Parts of the Town to fetch it. To prevent Counterfeits, it is only sold at Lemery's-Head at Charing-Cross, at 2 s. 6 d. per Pot, with Directions at large.

☞ The famous Chymical Quintessence of Bohee-Tea and Chocolate together, the first of that kind ever made; in which are essentially inherent the true Vertues of both Tea and Nut, insomuch that a few Drops of it gives more Nourishment than 20 Dishes of either, and is therefore the highest Restorative in Decays of Nature, Consumptive Habits, inward Weaknesses, Wastings and Coughs, Asthma's, Poorness of Blood, &c. in vigorating and strengthening Nature beyond all Food or Physick. Sold for 5 s. the Bottle, at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop, at the Griffin, the Corner of Bucklersbury, Poultry.

☞ An Incomparable Beautifying Cream for the Face, Neck and Hands; takes away all Freckles, Spots, Pimples, Wrinkles, Roughness, Scurf, Morphew, Yellowness, Sun-burning, renders the Skin admirably Clear, Fair and Beautiful, has an excellent pretty Scent; is very safe and harmless, and vastly transcends all other Things; for it truly nourishes the Skin, making it instantly look Plump, Fresh, Smooth, and delicately Fair, though before Wrinkled and Discolour'd. Sold only at Mr. Lawrence's Toyshop at the Griffin the Corner of the Poultry near Cheapside, at 2 s. 6 d. a Gally-pot, with Directions. Beware of Counterfeits, this being the true Original.